

DELL
COMIC

NO. 511

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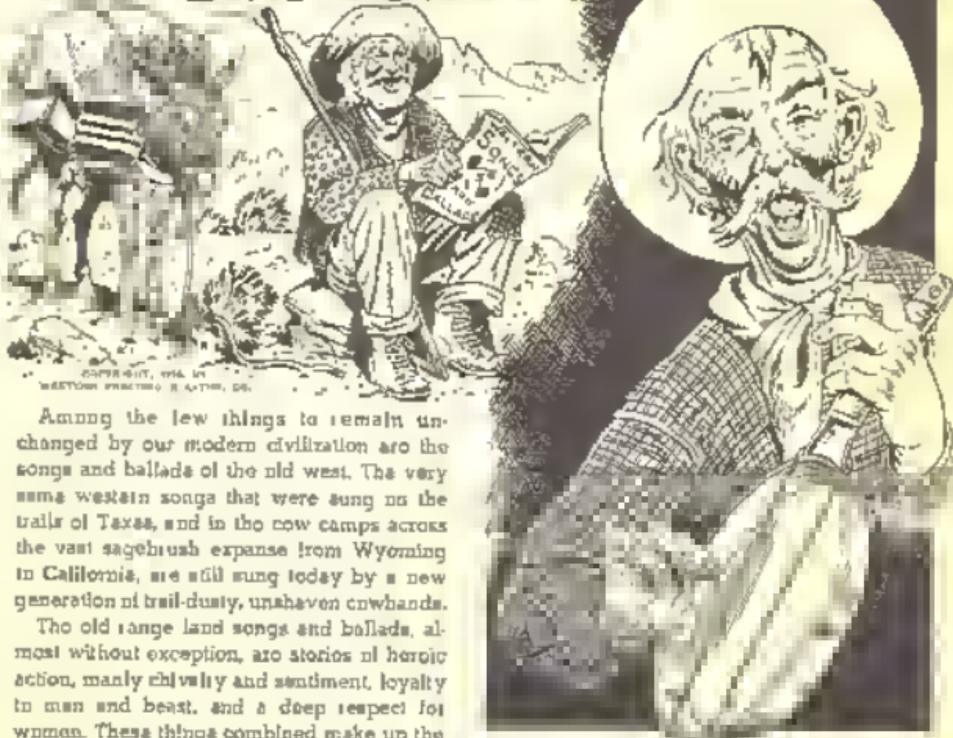
Johnny Mack Brown



WEB COMIC UNIVERSE.CDM



WESTERN SONGS



Among the few things to remain unchanged by our modern civilization are the songs and ballads of the old west. The very same western songs that were sung on the trails of Texas, and in the cow camps across the vast sagebrush expanse from Wyoming to California, are still sung today by a new generation of trail-dusty, unshaven cowhands.

The old range land songs and ballads, almost without exception, are stories of heroic action, manly chivalry and sentiment, loyalty to man and beast, and a deep respect for woman. These things combined make up the Western Code, which we still applaud whenever the spirit of the West prevails.

The cowboy sang his lusty or sentimental ballads for many reasons. He sang to entertain himself on lonely rides, or to quiet restive cattle on a waterless or stormy trail. Sometimes he sang just for the fun of it, but more often because he liked the sad, sentimental strain that runs through most western ballads. Since his daily routine was raw and lusty, he often sang of the "tender things" of life. And

when the songs told of strife and death, almost invariably honor and right won over wrong.

Many times the cowboy improvised the songs he sang, as for example the "Ogallala Song," which was just made up as the trail went north by men singing on night guard, with a verse in every river on the trail. Another example was the "Old Chisholm Trail," a song of life on the endless, dusty longhorns trails up from Texas, to which was added improvised verses numbering more than a hundred odd!



JOHNNY MACK BROWN

and The Disappearing Cattle

EASY, REBEL, HENDERSON'S RANCH IS JUST BEYOND THAT OLD PUEBLO VILLAGE! WELL SOON KNOW WHY HE SENT FOR US... HOLD IT, REBEL... THERE'S TROUBLE BREWING!



LET'S GO, REBEL! THAT INJUN NEEDS HELP!



OKAY, BIX, THE INJUN IS TIED TO HIS PINTO! LET TA-F SQUAW GO!

THEY WON'T BE COMIN' BACK HERE ANY MORE!



HEY! SOGBODY SHOT THAT RIDE!

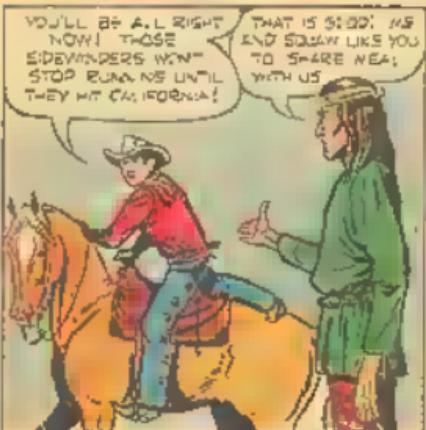
THAT GUY'S TOO LANCY WITH A GUN - I'M GETTIN' OUTA HERE...



...BUT FAST!

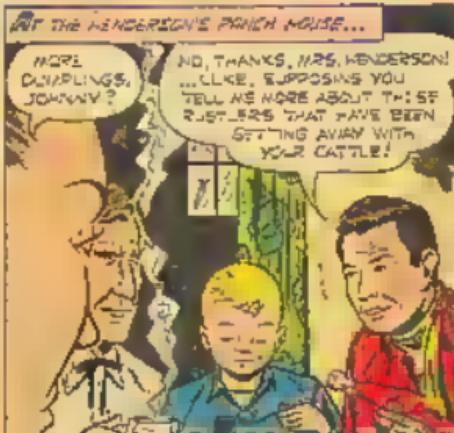
ME TOO!





LATER...

THIS IS HENDERSON'S
RANCH, REBEL! I
WONDER WHY HE
SENT FOR ME?



I DON'T KNOW HOW IN Tarnation
THEY'RE RUSTLIN' EM AND I DON'T
KNOW WHERE THE CATTLE
DISAPPEAR, TO! BUT ONCE THAS
I KNOW FOR SURE... IF IT KEEPS
ON ILL BE RUINED!



AND WE NEVER FIND MORE THAN ONE
BREAK IN THE FENCE! LAST
NIGHT I LOST ANOTHER
HUNDRED HEAD!



WHAT ABOUT TRACKS?

WE ALWAYS FIND TRACKS
OF THE HORSE WHO CUTS
THE FENCE, BUT WE NEVER
FIND ANY OTHER TRACKS!
SEEMS LIKE THE
CATTLE VANISH
INTO THIN AIR!



I'D LIKE TO TAKE A LOOK AT THAT BREAK
IN THE FENCE!

IT'D BE TOO DARK TO
GO NOW! BUT LARRY
CAN TAKE YOU THERE
FIRST THING IN
THE MORNING!



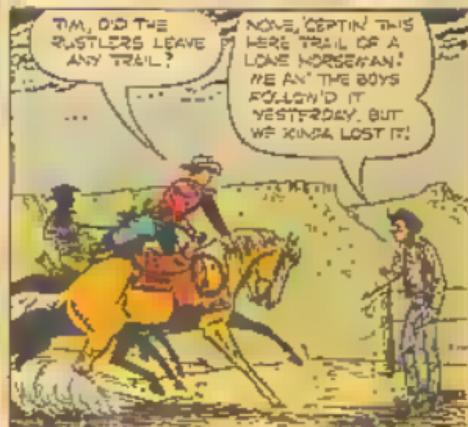
NEXT MORNING...

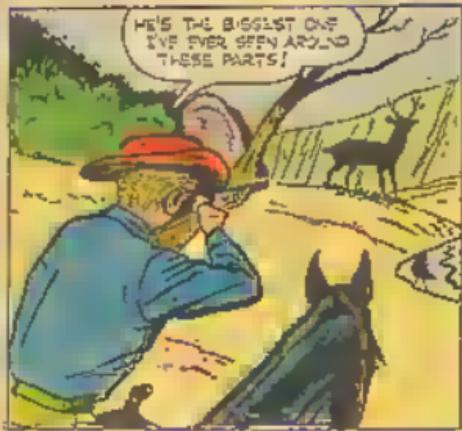
THAT'S TIM! PA SENT
HIM OUT TO FIX
THE FENCE!



TIM, DID THE
RUSTLERS LEAVE
ANY TRAIL?

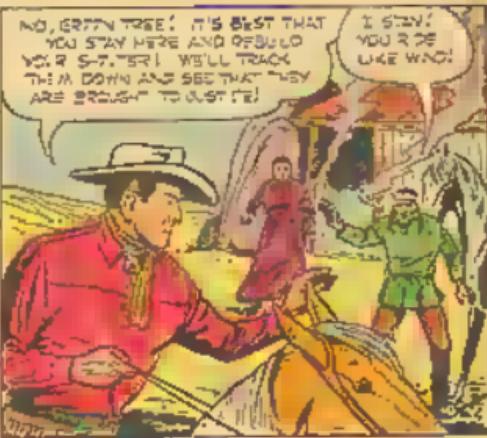
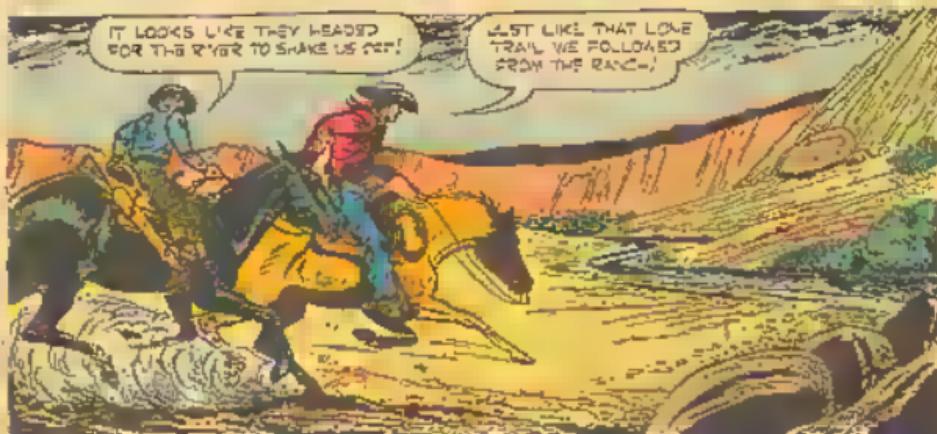
NOPE, CAPTIN THIS
HERE TRAIL OF A
LONE HORSEMAN!
WE AN' THE BOYS
FOLLOW'D IT
YESTERDAY, BUT
WE KINNA LOST IT!













BIX, TONIGHT WE'LL ROUND UP HENDERSON'S WHOLE NORTH HERD! ONE OF THE BOYS WILL CUT A HOLE IN THE FENCE, SAME AS USUAL!

GOTCHA, ACE!

OLICK, LARSEN, WARN YOUR PA ABOUT THE NORTH HERD! HAVE HIS MEN STAY BY THE NORTH FENCE; I'LL STICK AROUND AND SEE WHAT ELSE I CAN FIND OUT!

GOT AWAY CLEAN AS A WHISTLE! I'M SURE JOHNNY CAN TAKE CARE OF MUSE, E!



THESE GONE BIRDS WILL MAKE MIGHTY GOOD EATIN'!

LOOK! THERE'S SOME COYOTE SPYIN' ON THE BOYS!



REACH, MISTER, OR I'LL PUT DAYLIGHT THROUGH YOU! NOW TURN AROUND!



I AM ALWAYS WILLING TO PLEASE!

OOPSIE!

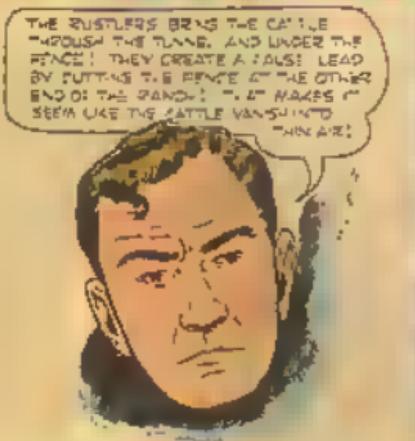












JOHNNY, THANK
HEAVENS YOU'RE
ALL RIGHT!

NO TIME TO EXPLAIN
NOW! WE'LL HAVE TO
RIDE FAST TO SAVE
THE NORTH HERD!
TAKE CARE OF
GREEN TREE'S BOYAH!



THAT'S HOW THEY COVERED UP
THEIR TRACKS LEADING TO THE
TUNNEL! THEY GRAB
BRUSHWOOD BEHIND THEM!

HENDERSON WENT BY NORTH
FENCE -- BUT RUSTLERS DRIVE
CATTLE SOUTH TO TUNNEL!
WE MUST GO FIND HIM!



THEY FIND HENDERSON AND HIS MEN
SURVIVING THE NORTH FENCE...

LUCAS, YOU'VE BEEN
TRICKED! HAVE YOUR
MEN GRAB THOSE
TORNIES AND FOLLOW
ME! I'LL EXPLAIN LATER!

RIDE,
COWBOY!



JOHNNY AND GREEN TREE RIDE TO WARN
HENDERSON OF THE RUSTLERS' TRICK...

THAT'S THE NORTH HERD THEY'RE
RUSTLING! WE BETTER CIRCLE
THEM AND KEEP OUT OF SIGHT!



THE RUSTLERS WILL DRIVE
THE CATTLE OUT OF AN OLD
TUNNEL BY THE WATERFALL!
LET THE CATTLE THROUGH...
AND THEN WE'LL MOVE IN AND
AMBUSH THOSE COYOTES!



HERE THEY COME! HOLD UP YOUR TORCHES, MEN!





JOHNNY MACK BROWN

RIMROCK ROBBERY

EARLY ONE MORNING IN RIMROCK...

JOHNNY?
JOHNNY MACK
BROWN?

WELL, IF
IT ISN'T
MY OLD
FRIEND PAUL
JONATHAN!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN
RIMROCK? I THOUGHT YOU WERE
BUSY AT YOUR RANCH IN COTTONBLUFF!

I CAME TO TALK ON
BUSINESS... BY THE WAY,
HAVE YOU MET MY
DAUGHTER, PEGGY?

YOU'RE JUST
IN TIME TO SEE
US OFF ON THE
STAGE, JOHNNY!

WHY DON'T YOU
TAKE THE NEXT
ONE? WE'LL HAVE
DINNER TOGETHER!

SORRY, JOHNNY, BUT WE'VE GOT TO
HURRY BACK! THIS MONEY HAS TO BE
PAID ON MY MORTGAGE... OTHERWISE
IT'LL BE FORCLOSED!

WE'VE GOT TILL
SIX O'CLOCK TO
GET IT TO
THE BANK!

STAGE TO
COTTONBLUFF...
LEAVING NOW!

MISTER JONATHAN!
OH, MISTER JONATHAN!

HERE
I AM!



MISTER JONATHAN, IF YOU
COULD POSSIBLY STAY TILL
THIS AFTERNOON, I BELIEVE
WE COULD MAKE A DEAL
FOR THOSE LONGHORNS
YOU TALKED ABOUT! SOME
BUYERS ARE DUG
FROM OREGON!

YOU STAY,
DAD... I'LL GO
HOME AND
TAKE CARE OF
THE PAYMENTS!



I'D LIKE
TO STAY,
BUT...

WAIT, PAUL! I'LL TRAVEL
WITH PEGGY, IF IT'LL MAKE
YOU FEEL BETTER. YOU
CAN'T AFFORD TO
MISS A GOOD DEAL!



YOU'RE A GREAT GUY,
JOHNNY! IT'S NOT THAT
THE STAGE ISN'T SAFE,
OR ANYTHING... BUT
THIS IS PLENTY
IMPORTANT TO US!

NOTHING TO IT,
PAUL! I'LL JUST
TIE THE REBEL
BEHIND... SO I
CAN RIDE HIM BACK!



PERHAPS THIS TRIP WILL END OUR
MORTGAGE WORRIES FOREVER, PEGGY!



IT'S NICE TO HANG SO MUCH ZOOM! ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE MYSELF - I'M ALCYDIUS ADAMS, AND THIS IS MY FRIEND, WILLIAM BAKER! WE'RE FROM TRENTON, NEW JERSEY!

GLAD TO KNOW YOU! I'M JOHNNY MACK BROWN, AND THIS IS MISS JONATHAN!

TWO HOURS LATER...

WE'RE AT THE WATER HOLE/LUNCH STOP!

YOU MUST SHARE OUR LUNCH, MISS JONATHAN AND YOU TOO, MISTER BROWN!

WHY, THANKS, MISTER ADAMS!

I'M GLAD I CAME PREPARED!

NOW, REACH

WHY, YOU SWINDLER!

SUCH BAD MANNERS!

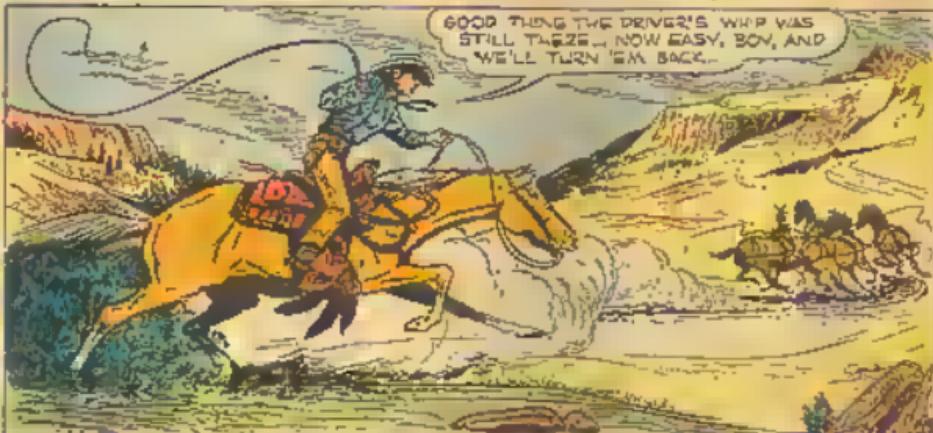
JONATHAN!

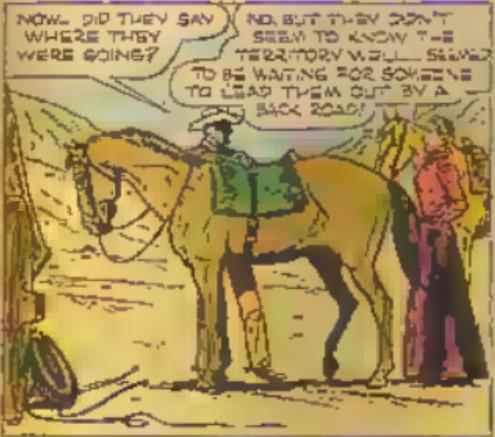
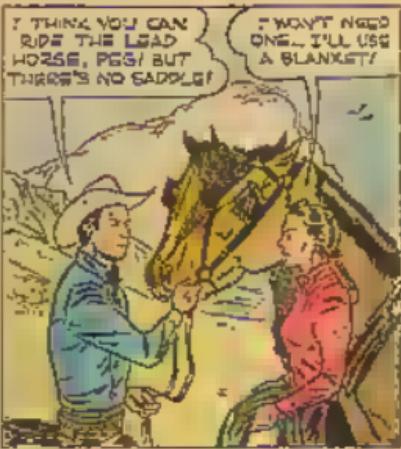
YOU, DRIVER, GET DOWN! UNLESS YOU WANT A BULLET IN YOUR BACK!

OH, NO, YOU DON'T!









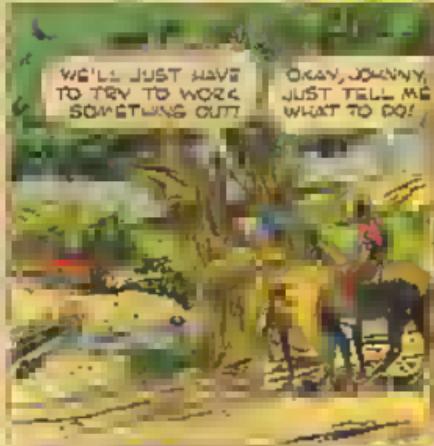
IF THEY'RE WAITIN' FOR
SOMEBODY TO GUIDE
THEM OUT, THEY'D
LIKELY WAIT HERE!

IF IT IS THEM, HOW
CAN WE POSSIBLY
GET INTO THE
HOUSE? WE HAVEN'T
EVEN GOT A GUN!



WE'LL JUST HAVE
TO TRY TO WORK
SOMETHING OUT!

OKAY, JOHNNY,
JUST TELL ME
WHAT TO DO!



YOU STAY IN THE BRUSH, NEAR
THE BIG TREE! WHEN YOU SEE
ME GET TO THE HOUSE, START
THROWING STONES AT THE
BACK OF THE HOUSE!



THEY WON'T BE ABLE
TO SEE PEGGY, SINCE
THERE'S NO WINDOW
ON THAT SIDE!



WELL, HERE
IT GOES!



WHAT WAS THAT?

I'LL HAVE
A LOOK!

PLUNK!

PLUNK!







